

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

CLAIMS

1. (original) A heating rack comprising a plurality of elongate members, each elongate member having a contact surface on which an object to be heated is placed to be exposed to a heat source and a first lateral portion shaped to form a channel disposed below the contact surface for receiving and directing exudate from the object to a collection region at one or both ends of the channel, characterised in that each elongate member is spaced from an adjacent elongate member to expose the object directly to the heat source when placed at any position along the contact surface.

2. (original) A heating rack as claimed in claim 1, wherein each elongate member is spaced from an adjacent elongate member by a distance in the range of 5 mm to around 15 mm, thereby to induce flow of exudates by surface tension effect.

3. (currently amended) A heat rack as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim~~ 2, wherein the vertical distance between the contact surface and the proximal end of the lateral portion is about 1 mm or more,

thereby to encourage flow of exudates into the channel by a surface tension effect.

4.(currently amended) A heating rack as claimed in claim 1 any ~~of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein each elongate member has a side face extending between the contact surface and the first lateral portion to encourage exudate from the object to flow from the contact surface to the channel positioned on one side of the contact surface.

5.(original) A heating rack as claimed in claim 4, wherein each elongate member has a second side face extending between the contact surface and a second lateral portion to form a second channel on the opposing side of the contact surface.

6.(original) A heating rack according to claim 5, wherein the lateral portions are inclined along their length so that liquid collected by the channels is directed along the side members to a collection region at one or both ends of the side members.

7.(original) A heating rack according to claim 6, wherein the lateral portions are inclined in two directions along their length.

8.(currently amended) A heating rack according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the elongate members are inclined along their length so that the liquid collected by the channels is directed in a direction along the channels to a collection region at one or both ends of the main members.

9.(original) A heating rack according to claim 8 wherein the elongate members are inclined in two directions along their length.

10.(original) A heating rack according to claim 8, wherein the elongate members are curved along their length being higher at a mid-span region than at their ends.

11.(currently amended) A heating rack according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the elongate members are formed from a sheet of metal that is folded to define the main body with two side faces and the lateral portion (s).

12.(currently amended) A heating rack according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~, wherein the elongate members are of substantially inverted "T" shape cross-section, or "anchor" shape in cross- section.

13. (currently amended) A heating rack according to claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~, wherein the width of the or each channel is at least 0.5 mm and the vertical height of the or each channel is at least 1 mm.

14. (currently amended) A heating rack according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the elongate members are mounted on support rods.

15. (original) A heating rack according to claim 14, wherein the support rods define a frame with rods extending across the frame transverse to the members.

16. (currently amended) A heating rack according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein each elongate member comprises a sheet of metal that is folded into a shape that fits over a rod and defines the or each lateral portion and the contact surface.

17. (currently amended) A heating rack according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein a receptacle is provided to collect fluids from the channels.

18. (original) A heating rack according to claim 15, wherein the receptacle is suspended or attached to the elongate members.

19. (currently amended) A barbecue heating device incorporating a rack constructed in accordance with claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims.~~

20. (original) A heating rack comprising a plurality of spaced discrete elongate members having a contact surface on which an object to be heated is placed and exposed to a heat source and a lateral portion for forming a channel disposed below the contact surface for receiving exudate from the object, wherein the channel is inclined along its length to direct the exudate to a collection region at one end of the channel.

21. (original) A heating rack as claimed in claim 20, wherein the elongate members are curved along their length being higher at a mid-span region than at their ends.

22. (new) A heat rack as claimed in claim 2, wherein the vertical distance between the contact surface and the proximal end of the lateral portion is about 1 mm or more, thereby to encourage flow of exudates into the channel by a surface tension effect.